



MIKE ENGLAND

... every honour.

# A check on the Cardiff squad

## DEFENCE

**RON HEALEY** (Goalkeeper): Made his debut at West Bromwich in March 1974 and several weeks later ended a loan period from Manchester City by signing for a five figure fee. A coalminer's son, he made his First Division debut at 17, thus becoming one of the youngest in the country. Out with an injury recently and unable to get back into the side.

**BILL IRWIN** (Goalkeeper): Signed from Irish League Club Bangor for £8,000 in October, 1971. The regular choice until Healey's arrival — now there is great rivalry for the job. Irwin is a former-Irish amateur International who made his debut within 48 hours of becoming a professional. The current 1st team keeper.

**PHIL DWYER** (Full-back/utility player): Local product, he is tipped as a future Welsh International. Has already played for the Youth and Under-23 sides. A consistent defender who played centre-half and striker last season — with such success that he won the Player of the Year Award.

**FREDDIE PETHARD** (Full-back): A Glasgow-born former Scottish youth player, he established himself as a permanent member of the side in the last 18 months. Played in the same youth side as Tommy Craig and Kenny Dalglish and came to Wales after being given a free transfer by Celtic in August 1969.

**CLIVE CHARLES** (Full-back): Signed at the end of season 1973/74 after several weeks on loan from West Ham. This London-born stylish player had a bad injury spell last season but now

seeking to re-establish himself. The younger brother of ex-Hammer John Charles.

**MIKE ENGLAND** (Centre-half): One of the great centre-halves of First Division and international football over the last decade. After almost 600 first team games for Blackburn Rovers and Tottenham Hotspur, 44 'caps' for Wales and winning almost every honour in the game, Mike came home to Wales this season. Signed by

Manager Jimmy Andrews "to run the team on the field". Big Mike has taken over the team captaincy and is playing with the same commanding authority as he showed in his years at the top. Made his debut against Bury on August 23, 1975.

**BRIAN ATTLEY** (Full-back): Came into the side last season and improved with every game. Another young, local player who defends efficiently and who can attack with flair.

## MIDFIELD

**TONY VILLARS** (Mid-field): Once an electrician, he made a sensational debut in football and capped his first full season in league football by gaining Welsh Under-23 and senior honours. Injury checked his progress last season but is now fully fit again.

**GIL REECE** (Mid-field): Playing as well as ever at 32 and a key figure in both the Cardiff and Welsh teams. Was Cardiff's top scorer last season — and can look back on being a free transfer by the club before going onto success with Newport County and Sheffield United and then returning to Cardiff.

**DOUG LIVERMORE** (Mid-field): A highly skilled First Division player with Liverpool — he is from Merseyside — and Norwich

City before signing for Cardiff this season. Doug has come to Ninian Park to add his creative mid-field scheming to Cardiff's drive to regain their Second Division status. Made his debut against Bury in August after some reluctance about dropping into Third Division football — "but I finally decided to sign because of Cardiff's First Division set-up and potential".

**JOHN BUCHANAN** (Mid-field): Joined Cardiff last season and produced mid-field aggression from the moment he arrived from Northampton. He was transferred in an exchange deal and makes exciting mid-field runs which can round off with ferocious shooting.

**DAVID GILES** (Mid-field): One of the most exciting young players in Welsh football. Born just a few hundred yards from the ground and with a natural talent that shows in sparkling control and darting pace. A Welsh Youth International who made his first team debut last season.

**PETER SAYER** (Mid-field): Another gifted local player. Also made his first team debut last season and showed enterprising form until breaking his leg against Southampton in April.

**WILLIE ANDERSON** (Winger): Given his League baptism as a 16-year-old with Manchester United. Moved to Aston Villa for £20,000 and, some 250 games later, to Ninian Park for £60,000. A brilliant runner with the ball and a big success playing in America last summer.

**DEREK SHOWERS** (Striker): Joined the club as a 15-year-old from his native Merthyr and established himself as a first team player

last season. A Welsh Youth and Under-23 International, he is a brave strong front runner who has not yet done himself justice in terms of finding the back of the net. Won his first senior cap for Wales against England at Wembley.

**BRIAN CLARK** (Striker): One of the great Cardiff favourites who rejoined the club in the close season after being transfer-listed by Millwall. Clark scored 104 goals for Cardiff before moving to Bournemouth for £65,000, and later moved to Millwall.

**TONY EVANS** (Striker): A close season signing from Blackpool. Played several Second Division games for the seasiders last season and it was his reputation as a goalscorer that made him a City target. Very quick and good in the air.

**ADRIAN ALSTON** (Striker): Another inspired signing by Andrews. Cost a modest £24,000 from Luton and has yet to be on the losing side for Cardiff in seven matches. Preston born, the 6ft. 1in. striker played amateur football before emigrating to Australia as a teenager where he won a place in their World Cup side and was signed immediately afterwards by Luton.

**JIMMY ANDREWS** (Manager): A Scot from the Highlands, he took control at Ninian Park before the start of last season. Had arrived as coach to the manager Frank O'Farrell and now his talents as a manager-coach are showing, as youngsters like Giles, Sayer and Attley make progress. A former West Ham left-winger who made a big reputation as coach with Q.P.R., Chelsea, Coventry and Spurs.